

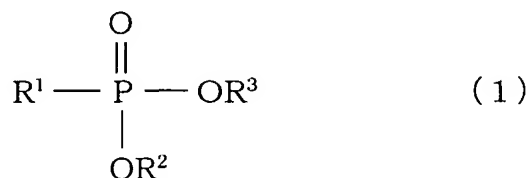
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A heat-resistant expanded graphite sheet comprising an organic phosphorus compound, and ~~only compressed expanded graphite particles~~ consisting of compressed expanded graphite particles with respect to graphite particles, said expanded graphite particles having an expansion rate of 200 to 300 times being compressed, and said organic phosphorus compound ~~is dispersedly~~ contained in a proportion of 0.1 to 10% by weight in said sheet.

2. (Original) The heat-resistant expanded graphite sheet according to claim 1, wherein the organic phosphorus compound is selected from the group consisting of an organic phosphonic acid and an ester thereof, an organic phosphinic acid and an ester thereof, a phosphoric acid ester, a phosphorous acid ester, and a hypophosphorous acid ester.

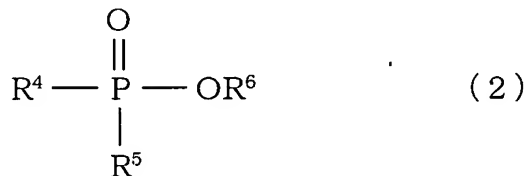
3. (Original) The heat-resistant expanded graphite sheet according to claim 2, wherein the organic phosphonic acid or the ester thereof is represented by the following general formula (1):



wherein R¹ is an alkyl group having a carbon number of 1 to 10, an aryl group having a carbon number of 6 to 18, or an aralkyl group consisting of an alkylene portion having a carbon

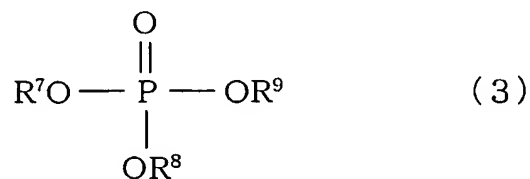
number of 1 to 10 and an aryl portion having a carbon number of 6 to 18, and each of R^2 and R^3 is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having a carbon number of 1 to 10, an aryl group having a carbon number of 6 to 18, or an aralkyl group consisting of an alkylene portion having a carbon number of 1 to 10 and an aryl portion having a carbon number of 6 to 18.

4. (Original) The heat-resistant expanded graphite sheet according to claim 2, wherein the organic phosphinic acid or the ester thereof is represented by the following general formula (2):



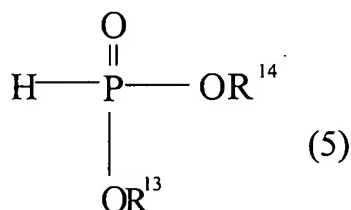
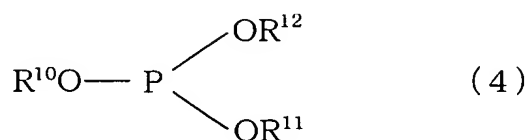
wherein R^4 is an alkyl group having a carbon number of 1 to 10, an aryl group having a carbon number of 6 to 18, or an aralkyl group consisting of an alkylene portion having a carbon number of 1 to 10 and an aryl portion having a carbon number of 6 to 18, and each of R^5 and R^6 is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having a carbon number of 1 to 10, an aryl group having a carbon number of 6 to 18, or an aralkyl group consisting of an alkylene portion having a carbon number of 1 to 10 and an aryl portion having a carbon number of 6 to 18.

5. (Original) The heat-resistant expanded graphite sheet according to claim 2, wherein the phosphoric acid ester is represented by the following general formula (3):



wherein each of R^7 , R^8 , and R^9 is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having a carbon number of 1 to 10, an aryl group having a carbon number of 6 to 18, or an aralkyl group consisting of an alkylene portion having a carbon number of 1 to 10 and an aryl portion having a carbon number of 6 to 18, providing that a case where all of them are hydrogen atoms is excluded.

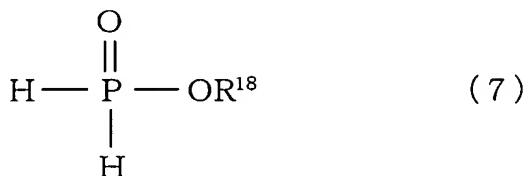
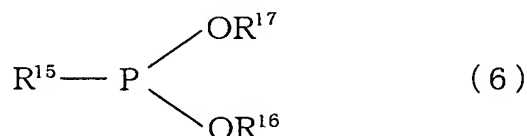
6. (Previously Presented) The heat-resistant expanded graphite sheet according to claim 2, wherein the phosphorous acid ester is selected from a phosphorous acid triester which is represented by the following general formula (4) and a phosphorous acid diester and a phosphorous acid monoester which are represented by the following general formula (5):



wherein each of R^{10} , R^{11} , and R^{12} is an alkyl group having a carbon number of 1 to 10, an aryl group having a carbon number of 6 to 18, or an aralkyl group consisting of an alkylene portion having a carbon number of 1 to 10 and an aryl portion having a carbon number of 6 to

18, and each of R^{13} and R^{14} is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having a carbon number of 1 to 10, an aryl group having a carbon number of 6 to 18, or an aralkyl group consisting of an alkylene portion having a carbon number of 1 to 10 and an aryl portion having a carbon number of 6 to 18, providing that a case where both of R^{13} and R^{14} are hydrogen atoms is excluded.

7. (Original) The heat-resistant expanded graphite sheet according to claim 2, wherein the hypophosphorous acid ester is a hypophosphorous acid diester (phosphonite) which is represented by the following general formula (6) or a hypophosphorous acid monoester which is represented by the following general formula (7):



wherein R^{15} is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having a carbon number of 1 to 10, an aryl group having a carbon number of 6 to 18, or an aralkyl group consisting of an alkylene portion having a carbon number of 1 to 10 and an aryl portion having a carbon number of 6 to 18, and each of R^{16} , R^{17} , and R^{18} is an alkyl group having a carbon number of 1 to 10, an aryl group having a carbon number of 6 to 18, or an aralkyl group consisting of an alkylene portion having a carbon number of 1 to 10 and an aryl portion having a carbon number of 6 to 18.